tioned in Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 4348 dated 18.12.91 have been referred to Central Bureau of Investigation and it is not possible to indicate a definite time, by which C.B.I. will complete the investigations.

[*Translations*]

Raw Material Shortage in Northern Region

6662. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA:
SHRI NITISH KUMAR:
SHRIMATI D.K. BHANDARI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the shortage of various raw materials has hit the industrial production in the Northern region and has also affected the exports as reported in the 'Stateman' dated March 11, 1992;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed by the Union Governemnt to ensure availability of raw materials to the industries and boost the production?

THE MINSTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a) to (c). Index of Industrial Production and Data on Exports are not being complied region-wise. Any shortage of raw materials is bound to affect industrial production and exports. According to Ministry of Coal, the industrial consumers including some consumers in Northern Region may have experienced shortfall in supply of coal due to priority movement of coal by rail to core sector consumers, particularly power utilities. According to Department of Steel there is general shortage of pig iron and certain items of steel in the country. Import of these items is allowed, Removal of margin money requirement on raw materials and intermediates and elimination of Import Licensing except for a small Negative List of specified items, decanalisation of vital raw material and provision for import of most of industrial inputs as and when required, as provided in the Import & Export Policy, 1992-97, will facilitate quicker and easier availability of raw materials to the Industry and boost industrial production.

[*English*]

Collaboration of Hindustan Motors with General Motors of USA

6663. SHRI RABI RAY:
DR. Y.S RAJASEKHAR REDDY;

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Motors has entered into a collaboration agreement with the General Motors of USA for manufacturing fuel efficient cars and automotive components; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTERY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Government have approved a proposal of M/s. Hindustan Motors Limited, Calcutta for setting up of a Joint Venture project with M/s. General Motors Corporation, U.S.A for manufacture of fuel efficient passenger cars within the existing licenced capacity. The foreign equity participation by the collaborator would be approximately 30% and there would be a balancing of foreign exchange outgo through export earnings.

Revamping of HFC

6664. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state: